

From: Binu Parayil
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 11:14am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To Whom it May Concern,

The proposed Microsoft settlement, as it stands, is a disgrace. To allow Microsoft to continue as a monopoly with a mere slap on the face is downright ridiculous.

The fact that I can buy a car from any manufacturer and drive it on any road is indicative of a healthy, competitive environment. A more applicable example would be that the purchase of any car allows me to have any type of sound system from any manufacturer - I am not FORCED to purchase a specific sound system in order for me to receive FM radio. This is not true in the desktop computing world. I am forced to rely on Microsoft products if I am to continue interoperating with my fellow colleagues or associates.

How did we get here? Microsoft has BECOME a monopoly, as determined by the courts, and will continue to be a monopoly if the current settlement proceeds. Furthermore, Microsoft will continue to use it's (now government-sanctioned) monopoly to leverage itself into handhelds, game consoles, cable tv, etc, until we are all FORCED to live in a Microsoft-enabled world, or else, go live in a cave.

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